

THE NEW YORK PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS.

COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR EVENING TELEGRAPH.

Policy Mutterings.

From the Tribune. We print the news from Washington with some degree of reluctance. It is of so important a nature that we should like to have official assurance of its truth. Failing in that, as official assurances only come from Washington in a whimsical and selfish way, we take it from those we are accustomed to trust, and give it for what it is worth. The whole scheme of attempting to bully England into payment of a debt the validity of which she does not admit, is false and insincere. The President has no more idea of going to war with England than he has of making war upon New Zealand. He has no idea of enforcing his demands, but he knows that, in the absence of any positive statesmanship, it is perfectly safe to bully England. It is the cheapest and most popular act that any President can try, is always in order, and, generally, it is not very respectable. When an Administration has nothing left but menace, it becomes disreputable and weak.

The story about the French claims is of the same nature. Mr. Sewar, Mr. Johnson, and General Grant, talking over Mexican affairs, are of no more consequence than any other three gentlemen conversing on that subject. They have no power to pay the Mexican debt, and certainly do not want any Mexican territory. We have enough to sell, without adding to our possessions. Nor do we care about paying French claims which we cannot verify, and the justice of which the Juarez Government has always disputed. We have enough debt of our own; enough of a false, irritating, inflated currency to manage, without borrowing money to bribe France.

Reconstruction—The Material Interests of the South.

From the Herald. Affairs down South seem almost to have come to a dead-lock. Those who have no cotton are very badly off, and those who have cotton are not in a much better position. The Freedmen's Bureau and the tax collectors between them have taken possession of the crops, and not a bale can be moved until the Government three cent tax is paid, and until the authorities of the nigger bureau certify that each one of their proteges has received his dues. This delay is, of course, productive of great inconvenience to the planters, who are paying as much as three and a half per cent. a month for loans of money. What with interest on brokers' advances and loans, and the depletion which somehow invariably accompanies the handling of cotton by Bureau and Treasury agents, there is very little of the staple left when it returns to its rightful owners. To add to the general perplexity, the entire crop turns out higher than was expected in every State except Texas, where the amount raised is nearly double the estimate; for Texas suffered nothing by the war, and had the use of labor and of capital from other parts of the South. In Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, the heavy frosts which occurred in July and August materially reduced the cotton production. Thus the Southern States stand, without money, without credit, with a short crop and a desolated country. They need capital to redevelop their resources and labor to cultivate their wasted lands. The only way to obtain these is by a restoration to the Union, and by the flow of confidence and capital which will follow on that event. The only way to obtain this restoration is by an undelayed ratification of the Constitutional amendment. There is no valid reason why they should not take this course, and that right speedily. It is in entire accordance with their interests, public and private. It is in general principle what their generals, Lee and Johnston, Longstreet and Hood, would advise them to do. It is the will of the North, and it is what all their friends would urge them to do. It is the will of the South, and it is what all their friends would urge them to do. It is the will of the South, and it is what all their friends would urge them to do.

Italy and the Pope.

From the World. The formal cession of Venetia to Italy, the cable informs us, has been completed; and the Queen of the Adriatic has given her hand in marriage to the King of Italy. These nuptials—the bride was given away by the Emperor of France—complete the work which ten years ago the wise men of the world pronounced to be quite impracticable, achieve the unity of Italy, and set free her people "from the Adriatic to the Alps." The word which Metternich declared to have become a merely "geographical expression" suddenly takes upon itself all the power and glory of a great national name. Italy, comprising within her limits and protecting by her flag twenty-five millions of a race which has given to mankind more unquestioned leaders in every department of human activity and intelligence than any other of modern times—Italy, mistress of a territory not less admirably fitted by nature for the seat of a compact nationality than France, or than Britain itself—a territory

Demands of the Extremists.

From the Times. The fact that the Republican party has won its victories, and is carrying on its canvass, with a distinct declaration that it endorses the Constitutional amendment as the basis of Southern restoration, appears to stimulate the extreme radicals to fresh extravagance in their demands. They spur the idea of conciliation and compromise. The moderate terms of the amendment excite their indignation, and form the ground upon which they call for its rejection. There shall be no restoration of the Union, they tell us, unless they dictate the conditions, and enjoy control of the Government. Let us see what the conditions amount to which they propose to enforce. The demagogues who have addressed themselves to Republican audiences under the captivating appellation of "Southern Loyalists,"

at once continental by its internal conformation, its extent and fertility, and insular by the sweep and the excellence of its vast sea coast; tried, tried by long centuries of domestic dissension and foreign oppression, and emerging from the unparalleled ordeal of her history with an unquenched love of liberty, and an undiminished capacity of law—Italy, on the last Austrian warship from the Adriatic, and the elevation of the tricolor and the cross of St. Mark, becomes really the winged lion of St. Mark, and takes her place in the acropolis of the nation, beside the proudest and the most powerful of them all.

The splendor and suddenness of the military advents which have raised Prussia during the past summer to the position of the most powerful nation in the attention of the world, should not blind us to the facts that the work which Count Bismarck is now doing is far from being yet done, and that, if it is true that Italy owes the acquisition of Venetia immediately to the Prussian victories at Gitschin and Sadowa, it is yet not less true that Solferino and Magenta alone made it possible for Prussia to enter upon that policy towards the Court of Vienna, that they have been, somewhat hesitatingly perhaps, accepted as its final and enduring fruits. The debt of Italy to Bismarck is certainly not less, and may be fairly offset by the debt of Germany to Italy, in the person of her new position, and the crystallization around her of the German race, are still in progress, and must still be considered as liable to the ups and downs which attend the progress of human schemes and prospects, the consolidation of Italy is substantially an accomplished fact, and, as such, of a larger importance to mankind even than the acquisition of Venetia to Germany, that it is to be.

The "question of Rome," which is still put forward in some quarters as a problem, and a peril for Italy, has, in truth, been re-solved by the dismemberment of Austria from the Peninsula. It is related of the late Emperor of Austria, that, upon receiving the news of the overwhelming defeat of Marshal Benedek at Sadowa, he exclaimed, "This is a harder blow for me than the loss of the Crimea." The conclusion of the peace between Austria and Prussia, and the consequent dismemberment of Austria, has altered completely the tone of Italian unity, and has placed the Holy Father, and the Holy See, in one of the advantages of infidelity, which it may make inconsistency not only respectable, but even imposing.

The present standstill of Henry Ward Beecher carrying a whole view of God's political messages to mankind three times in three weeks, he justly subjects himself to such sarcasm as old John Winnet, the indomitable veteran of John Knox, poured upon the Scotch priests who were so rapidly coming to pass in Italy and at Rome. "In the time of Dante," says Ugo Foscolo, in his famous "Discourse," "in the time of Dante the Church was the slave of France, as to-day she is of Austria." In these words, which were written forty years ago, and which only began to cease to be true on the day when the soldiers of the French Republic entered Rome and drove the "Triumvir" before them, we have the ample justification of the policy which France set on foot towards Rome before Louis Napoleon came to the Presidency, and which Napoleon has prosecuted so tenaciously and so warily up to its triumph, and rapidly approaching culmination of triumph, which France has so bravely defended, or a very ill-informed Italian who, in the retrospect of the last seventeen years, fails to see how utterly fatal to the hopes of Italy would have been the ephemeral reign of the Garibaldian triumvirate in the Eternal City. Austria, victorious at Rome as well as at Novara, Papacy, but upon all Italy, with which it must have changed the whole subsequent history of our times.

As things now are, the withdrawal of the French troops from Rome leaves Italy free from all pretence of foreign complication, with her relations with the Papacy. To suppose that in adjusting these relations the Government of Victor Emmanuel will forget how delicate and how multilateral are the ties which connect the Papacy with the religious, the political, and the social life of Italy, is to suppose that the able and successful statesmen who have already established their fitness to succeed the great and successful Cavour will suddenly lose, in their hours of triumph, the good sense and the sound judgment which have made them so successful in so brilliantly through the hours of trial.

Whether the Italian capital shall remain at Florence or be transferred to Rome; whether the Pope shall be provided for out of a fund to be raised from the property of the Garibaldian, or out of the exchequer of the Italian nation—these are questions of administration and detail out of the settlement of which it is hardly possible that any serious mischief should arise. The only serious question of Italian progress, the vital point in the Roman question was settled when, by the cession of Venetia to Italy, Rome also became Italian. Whatever temporary passions may be excited by the Italian, or by the Venetian, may be attended, the recognition of this fact by the Roman hierarchy, its inevitable consequences must be speedily reached, and reached to the infinite advantage alike of Italy and of Rome.

His position in the premises is legally inappreciable, and the spirit in which he approaches his duty—judging from his reported remarks—is unobjectionable. If his decision be at variance with the law, the means of redress, whether by force or by law, the Police Commissioners shall not be removed; and preparations have been made by the mob for armed resistance to the lawful authority of the State Executive. It is elsewhere, in Missouri especially; the doctrine acted upon by the radicals apparently being that, under the pretence of superior loyalty, they are at liberty to plunge the country aresh into civil and armed contention.

National safety requires the maintenance of law, whether against radicals or Rebels, and the prevention of trouble by hastening the restoration of the Union on the moderate basis prescribed by the Republican party. By this method, more readily than by any other, may the revolutionary schemes of the radicals be effectually frustrated.

UNADULTERATED LIQUORS ONLY. PENNSYLVANIA. No. 47 North EIGHTH Street, East Side. No. 5 and 7 JOHN Street, New York. No. 718 BROADWAY, New York. No. 269 FULTON Street, Brooklyn.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HIGHWAYS.—Office, FIFTH Street, west side, below Chestnut. PHILADELPHIA, October 20, 1866. Sealed Proposals will be received at the Office of the Chief Commissioner of Highways until 12 o'clock M. on Monday, the 27th inst., for the construction of a sewer on the line of Outlet Street from Second Street to Twenty-second Street, to be built of brick circular in form, and of the following dimensions: Diameter, 36 inches, with 12 inches of masonry as may be directed to the Chief Engineer of Highways. The contractor shall take the proper precautions against the property of the sewer, and shall be held responsible for the difference between his bid and the best higher bid. All bidders are required to be present at the time and place of opening and proposals. Each proposal will be accompanied by a certificate that a bond has been filed in the Law Department as directed by ordinance of May 25, 1866. The lowest bidder shall not execute a contract within five days after the work is awarded, he will be deemed as declining, and his bid shall be returned to him. For the difference between his bid and the best higher bid, he shall be held responsible. Specifications may be had at the Department of Surveys, which will be strictly adhered to. W. W. SWEDLEY, Chief Commissioner of Highways.

OFFICE OF THE LEHIGH COAL AND NAVIGATION COMPANY. PHILADELPHIA, August 29, 1866. The Stockholders of this Company are hereby notified that the Board of Managers have decided to pay a dividend of 10 per cent. on the stock of the Company, to be paid on the 1st of November next, at 3 P. M. of that day, at the office of the Chief Engineer of Highways, No. 100 North Second Street, Philadelphia. The dividend will be paid in full, or in installments, at the option of the stockholder, and the interest will be paid on the unpaid balance at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, and on all payments made between the 1st of November and the 1st of December, 1866, interest will be charged at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. The dividend will be paid on the 1st of November, 1866, at 3 P. M. of that day, at the office of the Chief Engineer of Highways, No. 100 North Second Street, Philadelphia. The dividend will be paid in full, or in installments, at the option of the stockholder, and the interest will be paid on the unpaid balance at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, and on all payments made between the 1st of November and the 1st of December, 1866, interest will be charged at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. The dividend will be paid on the 1st of November, 1866, at 3 P. M. of that day, at the office of the Chief Engineer of Highways, No. 100 North Second Street, Philadelphia. The dividend will be paid in full, or in installments, at the option of the stockholder, and the interest will be paid on the unpaid balance at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, and on all payments made between the 1st of November and the 1st of December, 1866, interest will be charged at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

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CORN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, October 19, 1866. The stockholders of this bank are hereby notified that the Board of Directors have decided to pay a dividend of 10 per cent. on the stock of the bank, to be paid on the 1st of November next, at 3 P. M. of that day, at the office of the Chief Engineer of Highways, No. 100 North Second Street, Philadelphia. The dividend will be paid in full, or in installments, at the option of the stockholder, and the interest will be paid on the unpaid balance at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, and on all payments made between the 1st of November and the 1st of December, 1866, interest will be charged at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

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